

Franklin County Commissioners' General Session Agenda for 09/04/12

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners holds its General Session meetings every Tuesday at 9:00am in the Franklin County Government Tower at 373 South High Street, 26th Floor. Highlighted below are some of the resolutions/contracts scheduled for consideration at the upcoming meeting:

Helping Residents Repair Dangerous Septic Systems Threatening Health and Home

Throughout mostly-urban Franklin County, it's estimated that more than 4,000 homes still rely on individual household sewage treatment systems, such as septic tanks or onsite septic systems, instead of being connected to a centralized sewer system. When aging septic systems begin to fail, some residents are forced to give up their property because they cannot afford the costly repairs. On Tuesday, Franklin County Commissioners are expected to approve a \$160,000 effort between the Franklin County Public Health Department and the County's Economic Development and Planning Department to help income-eligible residents replace and repair their failing home sewage treatment systems. This program will target low-income homeowners who are facing the possibility of being evicted from their houses because of an unsafe, malfunctioning, or non-compliant home sewage disposal system. In addition to posing a serious health threat to families and neighbors, failing septic systems can pollute nearby surface and ground water. By assisting with repairs or replacements, the County can ensure that these septic systems meet all current federal and state environment standards.

Declaring September as Childhood Obesity Awareness Month

On Tuesday, County Commissioners are also expected to proclaim the month of September as Childhood Obesity Awareness Month. Over the past three decades, childhood obesity rates in America have tripled. Nationally, nearly one in every three children or teenagers is overweight or obese. The numbers are even higher in African American and Hispanic communities, where nearly 40 percent of young people are considered overweight. Later on Tuesday, Commissioners will announce the County's participation in a major national childhood health initiative (details of this media event will be released on Monday).

Ensuring Continued Safety for Visitors and Staff at Franklin County Children Service

For more than a decade, deputies with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office have provided security and safety protection for the staff and visitors at the offices of Franklin County Children Services. On Tuesday, Commissioners are expected to continue that partnership, authorizing a \$1 million contract between the two agencies. Each year, Franklin County Children Services helps nearly 28,000 children and their families through prevention, protection, placement and permanent adoption programs.

Measuring the Success of Efforts to Connect Reentering Offenders to Jobs and Families

In 2009, Franklin County's Child Support Enforcement Agency received a federal grant to assist reentering offenders in finding job training and work placement - as a way to help reentering parents secure financial support for their non-custodial children. With hopes of receiving additional federal funding to extend the effort, County Commissioners are being asked to approve a contract for an independent evaluation of the Pathfinder program's success. Of the more than 40,000 reentering residents in Central Ohio each year, the Franklin County Reentry Task Force estimates 18,000 of them are fathers and 4,000 are mothers - impacting more than 55,000 children. Commissioners believe that helping these parents - both custodial and non-custodial - successfully reintegrate, secure jobs, and find stable housing and health care also helps to build stronger, self-sufficient families.

For the full General Session Agenda, visit: <http://crms.franklincountyohio.gov/RMSWeb/pdfs/Agendas/CurrentAgenda.pdf>

Commissioners' Weekly Agenda 09/01/12 to 09/07/12

Franklin County Offices Closed in Observance of Labor Day (Monday)

All Franklin County Government offices will be closed on Monday, September 3, in observance of Labor Day. Normal business hours will resume on Tuesday, September 4.

For the Weekly Agenda of Official Commissioner Events, visit: <http://www.franklincountyohio.gov/commissioners/public-meetings/>

For more information on the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, call the Office of Public Affairs at (614) 525-3322 or visit www.franklincountyohio.gov/commissioners.